

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/798,789

Examiner

Rachna Singh

Applicant(s)

MULLEN ET AL.

Art Unit

2176

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 03/23/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 6,7,14-23,25,27,28,30-39,42,43,45 and 48-53.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 05/09/06.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

*D. Hutton*  
Doug Hutton  
Primary Examiner  
Tech Center 2100

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This action is responsive to communications: Amendments and Remarks filed on 03/23/06.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. Claims 6-7, 14-23, 25, 27-28, 30-39, 42-45, and 48-53 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In reference to claim 6, none of the references, either singularly or in combination, teach or fairly suggest the first and second gridlines are temporarily stored in a list of dynamic gridlines.

Mallgren teaches a moving grid for constructing an object in a particular geometry; however, Mallgren does not teach displaying a gridline in response to a selected object being dragged to a location nor does he teach temporarily storing gridlines in a list of dynamic gridlines.

George teaches a "smart guides" engine which automatically provides alignments to other elements in an electronic document and an alignment processor which evaluates individual alignments; however, George does not teach the features of temporarily storing the first gridline and second gridline in a list of dynamic gridlines.

In reference to claim 14, none of the references, either singularly or in combination, teach or fairly suggest the first and second gridlines are temporarily stored in a list of dynamic gridlines.

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Mallgren teaches a moving grid for constructing an object in a particular geometry; however, Mallgren does not teach displaying a gridline in response to a selected object being dragged to a location nor does he teach temporarily storing gridlines in a list of dynamic gridlines.

George teaches a "smart guides" engine which automatically provides alignments to other elements in an electronic document and an alignment processor which evaluates individual alignments; however, George does not teach the features of temporarily storing the first gridline and second gridline in a list of dynamic gridlines.

In reference to claim 16, none of the references, either singularly or in combination, teach or fairly suggest adding a default avenue distance to the thickness of the placed object in order to determine the location for a temporary gridline.

Mallgren teaches a moving grid for constructing an object in a particular geometry; however, Mallgren does not teach adding a default avenue distance to the thickness of the placed object. Further, Mallgren does not teach using the control point to align new objects with previously drawn objects, instead he teaches a moving grid for constructing a single object, not relative to other objects on the display.

George teaches a "smart guides" engine which automatically provides alignments to other elements in an electronic document and an alignment processor which evaluates individual alignments; however, George does not teach the feature of adding a default avenue distance to the thickness of the placed object.

In reference to claims 25 and 42, none of the references, either singularly or in combination, teach or fairly suggest the first across temporary gridlines is a distance  $D$  from the placed object or that the second across temporary gridline is a distance  $2D$  from the placed object where  $D$  is computed by adding the width of the placed object and a default avenue distance.

Mallgren teaches a moving grid for constructing an object in a particular geometry; however, Mallgren does not teach adding a default avenue distance to the thickness of the placed object. Further, Mallgren does not teach using the control point to align new objects with previously drawn objects, instead he teaches a moving grid for constructing a single object, not relative to other objects on the display.

George teaches a "smart guides" engine which automatically provides alignments to other elements in an electronic document and an alignment processor which evaluates individual alignments; however, George does not teach the feature of adding a default avenue distance to the thickness of the placed object.

In reference to claim 36, none of the references, either singularly or in combination, teach or fairly suggest, the second object is positioned along the line halfway between the first object and the intersection of the first gridline and the second gridline.

Mallgren teaches a moving grid for constructing an object in a particular geometry; however, Mallgren does not teach positioning a second object halfway between the first object and the intersection of a first gridline and second gridline.

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Further, Mallgren does not teach using the control point to align new objects with previously drawn objects, instead he teaches a moving grid for constructing a single object, not relative to other objects on the display.

George teaches a "smart guides" engine which automatically provides alignments to other elements in an electronic document and an alignment processor which evaluates individual alignments; however, George does not teach the feature of positioning a second object halfway between the first object and the intersection of a first gridline and second gridline.

Therefore, 6-7, 14-23, 25, 27-28, 30-39, 42-45, and 48-53 are allowable.

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rachna Singh whose telephone number is 571-272-4099. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30AM-6:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on 571-272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RS  
05/09/06

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Hutton', with a stylized, cursive script.

Doug Hutton  
Primary Examiner  
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